3. Page 10, line 21, after "Server.", insert—One handheld OAE and/or ABR Screening Device interacts with an internal/external modem connected via an internet/intranet connection to an internet/intranet service provider through an internet/intranet link to a database server.—

4. Page 10, line 23, delete "ia".

5. Page 10, line 26, after "management.", insert—Four handheld OAE and/or ABR screening devices are shown associated with separate regional servers connected to a database server. Two handheld OAE and/or ABR screening devices are shown connected to one regional server. The second two OAE and/or ABR screening devices are shown connected to a different regional server.—

6. To assist the Examiner in inserting the above changes disclosed in Figs 1 through 4, marked up pages 10 and 11 of the specification are shown below:

Fig. 1 illustrates the handheld screening devices connect to a central server via local modems. Four handheld OAE and/or ABR Screening Devices are shown. The first interacts with the main database server via an external modem using analog, digital, cordless or wireless phone connections. The second interacts via a plug-in modem in contact with the main database server. The third interacts via an external modem in contact with the main database server, and the fourth interacts with the main database server via a built-in modem. The screening devices communicate with a central server by actively establishing a dial-up or other connection. The handheld unit is able to store and memorize predefined phone numbers or these phone numbers can be entered via a keyboard similar to a handheld phone. The connection can be established via an analog or digital phone linen, via cordless or cellular phone channels or other media, such as power lines, fiber optic connections, etc. The modem can either be either external with power supplied from the screening device or an independent source, or internal. No local PC is needed. Nor does the user need to use any other device then the screener itself.

Fig. 2. illustrates how the portable screening devices contact a server via local networks. Three handled OAE and/or ABR Screening Devices are shown. The first is connected via an external network adaptor to a local network server 1 interacting with the main database service. The second has a built-in network adaptor connected to the local network server 1 interacting with the main database server. The third is connected via a network adaptor to a local network server 2 interacting with the main database server. The connection to the server could also be established through a local area network (LAN), which may be Ethernet, 'bluetooth' (wireless standard) or any other local area network. The screening device

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establishes the connection without the user having to use any software on a local PC. Thus the screening device has a distinct advantage over other screening devices currently available on the market, which need a local PC to transfer data from the device.

Fig. 3 illustrates how the portable screening devices use global information network (internet) services to connect to the main server. One handheld OAE and/or ABR Screening Device interacts with an internal/external modem connected via an internet/intranet connection to an internet/intranet service provider through an internet/intranet link to a database server. Internet /Intranet services can be used in order to connect the screening device to the remote Server. The device can be connected to an Internet service provider via a telephone line or ia WAP services (wireless application protocol). Measurement data and patient data can be exchanged on a special designed home page.

Fig. 4 illustrates the portable screening devices associated with Regional-Servers or WAN-servers used to de-centralize the data management. Four handheld OAE and/or ABR screening devices are shown associated with separate regional servers connected to a database server. Two handheld OAE and/or ABR screening devices are shown connected to one regional server. The second two OAE and/or ABR screening devices are shown connected to a different regional server.

These four figures illustrate a number of different set-ups to operate the handheld screening devices. The server side can be separated into a central server and several 'regional' servers to optimise data handling even in nationwide data management systems. Each regional server is connected to a certain number of devices, which are assigned thereto. The information as to which server to call and how to identify the server can be programmed by the screener. This programming can also be done by the supplier so that the end user does not need to configure anything.

The connection can then also be used for various other actions besides transferring measurement data:

- Send patient lists to the screener
- update or change configuration information on the devices
- transfer and install new software on the screener
- setting the real time clock of the screener
- transferring messages to the user, patient related, device related and service instructions

The service-issues messages may be dependent on measurement results. For example, if the refer-rate is too high, the server could recommend a recalibration of the instrument.

Although this specification has made reference to the illustrated embodiments, it is not intended to restrict the scope of the appended claims. The claims themselves recite those features deemed essential to the invention.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

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